**10 signs a career in coding and software development might be right for you**

It's not all about computer science expertise. From problem-solving skills to beating your friends at chess, here are 10 indications that a career in programming is for you.

Having a passion for strategy games such as chess is a signal you could have an underlying aptitude for programming.

**1. You're a problem-solving pro**

Lots of people will simply tolerate problems without looking for a proactive way to solve them, particularly if tolerating the problem is easier. If you don't take this approach, but actually enjoy the challenge of solving problems of all kinds, then that's a great sign that you could be suited to software development. If, in your desire to solve problems, you also take into account realistic constraints – such as timeframes and budgets – then this could be a real asset in your search for a career.

**2. You have a passion for strategy games**

Yes, it can be true that gaming is good for you, particularly where strategy games are concerned. These help hone your ability to make decisions based on a number of relevant factors, taking into account both short and long-term consequences. As well as computer games, those who enjoy offline games like chess, bridge or risk, could also have an underlying aptitude for programming. At Net-a-porter, for example, we even have a weekly games club.

**3. You have a musical mind**

While the evidence for the correlation between music and maths is still in debate, it seems commonplace for those with musical talent to have mathematical abilities too. In our team, there are numerous coders who either compose music, sing, or play an instrument. In fact, roughly half the singers in our company choir are from the IT department.

**4. You have a talent for winning arguments**

No, we're not talking about full-blown shouting matches. But if your logical approach to arguing your points in a structured way means that you frequently win over your opponents, this could be a sign that you have the systematic thinking needed for software development.

**5. You love making things**

You can get the same sense of satisfaction from making something in the virtual world as you can in the physical world. Indeed, in the digital world, you aren't constrained by practicalities like materials and space, so imagination is your only limit. Having a natural curiosity for how things work, and how to make them work better, is a good indication of a nascent software developer.

**6. You're a people person**

Contrary to the stereotype of the IT team hidden away from the rest of the company, working as a developer can actually involve a great deal of interaction with others across the business. This means that an enjoyment of communicating and an ability to explain things in a way that is easily understood by others, are both really important.

**7. You'd like to know more about the theory of computer science**

While you may not have digested the full history of computer science, an interest in the theory behind software engineering is an important aspect of a coder's skillset. You don't want to spend your time re-inventing the wheel, so being interested in what others have discovered, and being prepared to build on those foundations, will fast-track your potential achievements.

**8. You're a team player**

Coding itself is a very collaborative process; continuously reviewing and redefining code with others helps you to shake out bugs, makes your work more likely to meet users' needs and is one of the best ways to learn. Developers therefore need to enjoy working together and should be prepared to study, critique and improve one another's work.

**9. You are intrinsically motivated**

Putting some amateur psychology to use, it seems to be true that the best developers are intrinsically motivated. This means they take their reward and motivation from the process of finding a solution to a problem, or creating something innovative in itself. In other words, developers often do what they do for the love of doing it, rather than just being paid to do it.

**10. You love technology**

This is fairly obvious, but it is worth re-iterating that if you want to work in software engineering, you need to have an appreciation for the amazing possibilities that technology brings to the world. Being interested in how you can harness the potential of technology, for whichever company you want to work in, will definitely stand you in good stead, and is a sure sign you are on the right career track for success in coding.

**be suited to** *être adapté/être fait pour* ; **asset** *un atout* ; **hone** *aiguiser* ; **take into account** *tenir compte de* ; **underlying** *sous-jacent* ; ***evidence*** *la preuve* ; **commonplace** *banal/ordinaire ;* **roughly** *à peu près* ; **shouting match** *engueulade* ; **win over** *convaincre* ; **nascent** *emergent* ; **a people person** *quelqu’un de sociable* ; **be prepared to** *être prêt à* ; **fast-track** *accéléler* ; **likely** *probable* ; **rather than** *plutôt que* ; **obvious** *évident ;* **harness** *exploiter* ; **stand sbd in good stead** *s’avérer utile à quelqu’un*

*LESSON 2.1: READING*

1. **INTRODUCTING A TEXT: Circle the right answer:**

* The article **is called** / **is entitled** / **is named** “10 signs a career in coding and software development might be right for you”
* The picture of a chess board has the following **caption** / **legend** / **subtitle**: “Having a passion for strategy games such as chess is a signal you could have an underlying aptitude for programming.”
* The article **talks about** / **speaks about** / **is about** the skills and abilities you need to work in software development.

1. **COMPREHENSION: Read the whole article, then answer the questions in your own words.**
2. Why do some people accept problems rather than looking for solutions?

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1. Which hobbies and interests can be beneficial for coding and how exactly do they help?

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1. **TRUE** or **FALSE.** Justify by quoting from the article: There is a proven link between ability in maths and music.

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1. Take a closer look at paragraph 4. Find 3 adjectives describing skills a programmer needs.

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1. Describe the various human interactions that you will need to have in a career in IT.

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1. Why is it useful to review your work in a team?

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1. According to the article, how important is money for the best coders?

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1. Find the following words and expressions from the article.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| compétence | Skill | génie logiciel | Software engineering |
| programmation | Programming | gamme de compétences | Skillset |
| échéance | Timeframe | exploit/réussite | Achivement |
| service informatique | It departement | codage | Coding |
| le monde physique | The physical world | enlever un bug (informatique) | Shake out the bug |
| le monde virtuel | Virtual world | correspondre aux besoins de l’utilisateur | Meet user’s needs |
| le monde numérique | The digital world | parcours professionnel | Career track |

1. **WRITTEN EXPRESSION:** In your opinion, which of the 10 signs given in the article is the most important, and which one the least? Say why in both cases. (200 words)

In my opinion the most importante arctile is “**9. You are intrinsically motivated “** because every article can’t be true without motivation to learn technology. We can’t have a good learning if we don’t have motivation. you can be very clever but if you don’t love learning technology it doesn’t work. Because work in IT implies learning everyday because technology is always advancing. Our teacher in “Organisation project management” says “to be hireable” and to be hireable in IT it’s necessary to learn at least one thing in it everyday. At the end of Bachelor of Technology we will be hireable, but in 10 years will we still be hireable?